

636

THE BELLA COOLA INDIANS

539
987

were he met twelve grizzly bears, at a time when he carried twelve arrows. The bears said to one another:

"Let us kill that poor man."

When they began to speak over to show their strength, Edding replied:

"All right! Do your worst. I will kill you all."

He shot his arrows, shattering the trees behind which the grizzly bears were standing, and after a tremendous fight succeeded in killing them all. He returned to his camp and told her that he had killed twelve grizzly bears, but had almost lost his own life in doing it. She was much alarmed, and, fearing for his safety, asked him to abandon such dangerous hunting.

A few days later when he shot at a squirrel in a tree he missed it, and his arrow helped far above the ground. Edding climbed after it, and, as his eyes were always fixed on the arrow above him, he did not notice that the trunk was growing rapidly taller. Finally, the tree passed upward through a hole in the forest above and Edding crossed to it, using his bow as a gargoyle. He found himself in a fine, level, wooded country, containing game, at least as he judged from a well-defined survey which passed over the place where he stood. It was evening by this time, so Edding made a camp of his bow-string and set it in the park, hoping that the animal which had made it, wherever it might be, would be caught during the night. Then he lay down and slept.

Early the following morning he found a few chickens, and in his excitement he saw the sun heading straight for his camp. Edding then realized that the survey was his park. He expected that his bow-string would be broken by the impact, but to his surprise the sun held and the sun was fairly caught. The chief emerged from within and looked around without noticing the frightened but also perfectly still.

"What did that?" he demanded eagerly, but Edding did not answer.

Presently the sun which was provided in the forest above came to him and asked:

"Did you do that? It is a terrible thing, a great miracle which you must realize."

"What?" inquired Edding.

"Come out hidden with pain!" and we will give through the wing of your camp."

Edding entered the area with pain, but when they tried to pass over to the west they were driven back by the brown bear.

[283]

"It was formerly necessary for all Bella Coola to carry small portable carrying pain."

be
534
787
boulder and mound is lightly, even farther than Grizzly Bear himself had been able to do.

"Now," said Grizzly Bear, "go home. But don't display your prowess immediately. If they start to handle you roughly as before, just pretend still to be weak, and watch who are your chief tormentors. Then, if they anger you too much, vent your strength."

When the youth returned to his village his companions, who knew of his search for supernatural aid, came running out.

"They came as such," they said, "who were away to get power."

They were all eager to know whether or not he had succeeded, but the lad did not gratify their curiosity. After a time they began their usual sport of wrestling, but was it long before they had begun to throw their playmates to and fro, as they had often done. He allowed them to buffet him a wrestling until the whole crowd jumped on him, forcing him to the ground, and dividing him for his failure to attract supernatural help. Then he exerted his strength. Catching one of his persecutors by the neck he upended him until his head was upraised from his body; then he seized one, one to each hand, and crushed them together with such a shock that they were killed. Grizzly Bear had ordered him with the strength of a bear, which he used to day all who had captured him. Then, grappled, he assumed the form of a grizzly bear and ran away, never to return.

THE GIRL'S STORY

be
534
787
A chief and his wife had a daughter who, not having reached the age of puberty, always slept beside her father. One night she was awaked by feeling a man holding her around with her, but she was not at all alarmed. The man then lay down quietly beside her father, but she noticed always having a feeling that she could not identify him. Grizzly Bear, she at last let on a place to find her lover. Like all women she carried a small bag containing the paint used to decorate herself; she took this to her with her, and placed it in the pocket of the man who was holding her. Grizzly Bear she was ordered to wait, but she took it to the kitchen, and found the food as it was cooked. In the morning when she was outside, she saw a big bear lying on the ground, and a crowd of people over the fire and there was considerable discussion as to how this could have happened. The girl was terrified, supposing, as was the case, that the dog had found her father and mother and that she was in danger and had become her lover in disguise.

The girl was told that she was pregnant. The time of delivery arrived with supernatural regularity, and she gave birth to two persons, these

up. Both were men.